

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1 (Currently amended). A method ~~to treat tissue in a selected wall region of an esophagus comprising the steps of~~

introducing an elongate member into ~~the an~~ esophagus, the elongate member comprising at least one electrode ~~carried by the elongate member operatively coupled to a source of radiofrequency energy~~ and an inflatable body carried by the elongate member ~~circumferentially-spaced from and free of physical or and~~ electrical contact with ~~the any~~ electrode;

inflating the inflatable body to stabilize the electrode in physical and electrical contact with ~~the a~~ selected wall region of the esophagus, while keeping the inflated body free of physical ~~or and~~ electrical contact with any electrode; and

~~coupling the electrode to a source of radiofrequency energy to delivering deliver~~ radiofrequency energy to the electrode to treat tissue in the selected wall region.

2 (Original). The method of claim 1

wherein delivering radiofrequency energy causes heating of tissue in the selected wall region.

3 (Original). The method of claim 1

wherein delivering radiofrequency energy source causes the temperature of tissue in the selected wall region to be heated to a range of 45°C to 65°C.

4 (Original). The method of claim 3

wherein delivering radiofrequency energy causes the temperature of tissue in the selected wall region to be heated to a range of 50°C to 60°C.

5 (Original). The method of claim 1

wherein delivering radiofrequency energy causes the temperature of tissue in the selected wall region to be heated to a range of 60°C to 80°C.

6 (Original). The method of claim 5

wherein delivering radiofrequency energy causes the temperature of tissue in the selected wall region to be heated to a range of 60°C to 70°C.

7 (Original). The method of claim 1

further comprising the step of modulating a power level of the radiofrequency energy delivered in response to a measured temperature of tissue in the selected wall region.

8 (Original). The method of claim 1

further comprising the step of modulating a power level of the radiofrequency energy delivered in response to a measured impedance of tissue in the selected wall region.

9 (Currently amended). A method ~~of thermally-mediated therapy to treat a dysfunction associated with laxity in a selected wall portion of an esophagus, the method comprising the steps of introducing the an elongate member into the an esophagus, the elongate member comprising at least one electrode carried by the elongate member operatively coupled to a source of electrical energy and an inflatable body carried by the elongate member circumferentially-spaced from and free of physical or and electrical contact with the any electrode;~~

~~inflating the inflatable body to stabilize the electrode in physical and electrical contact with the a selected wall region of the esophagus, while keeping the inflated body free of physical or and electrical contact with any electrode; and~~

~~coupling the electrode to a source of electrical energy to delivering deliver electrical energy to the electrode to stimulate an injury-healing process.~~

10 (Original). The method of claim 9

wherein delivering electrical energy affects synthesis of nascent collagen in the injury-healing process.

11 (Original). The method of claim 9

wherein delivering electrical energy affects shrinkage of native collagen.

12 (Original). The method of claim 9

wherein delivering electrical energy causes heating of tissue in the selected wall region.

13 (Currently amended). The method of claim 9

wherein delivering electrical energy ~~souree~~ causes the temperature of tissue in the selected wall region to be heated to a range of 45°C to 65°C.

14 (Original). The method of claim 13

wherein delivering electrical energy causes the temperature of tissue in the selected wall region to be heated to a range of 50°C to 60°C.

15 (Currently amended). The method of claim 9

wherein delivering electrical energy causes the temperature of tissue in the selected wall region to be heated to a range of 60°C to 80°C.

16 (Original). The method of claim 15

wherein delivering electrical energy causes the temperature of tissue in the selected wall region to be heated to a range of 60°C to 70°C.

17 (Original). The method of claim 9

further comprising the step of modulating a power level of the electrical energy delivered in response to a measured temperature of tissue in the selected wall region.

18 (Original). The method of claim 9

further comprising the step of modulating a power level of the electrical energy delivered in response to a measured impedance of tissue in the selected wall region.